

Adult Literacy Contact Centre NEWSLETTER



May 1992

Volume 5, Number 5

A project of the Adult Basic Education Association of B.C.

ABE Student Assistance Fund Doubled

British Columbia's Adult Basic Education Student Assistance Program (ABESAP) budget has been doubled, from \$1 million to \$2 million, effective April 1, 1992.

The increase was one of several initiatives concerning general increases in student financial assistance, announced by Advanced Education, Training and Technology Minister Dr. Tom Perry on April 6, 1992.

The new budget will provide grants for an additional 3,225 students enrolled in developmental education programs to assist with direct educational expenses.

The ABESAP program, established in 1981/1982, is a provincially-funded program designed to provide direct educational funding assistance to students enrolled in: academic upgrading; English language training; employment orientation; and Adult Special Education (ASE) programs in colleges, institutes and school districts in B.C.

According to the program's policy, a major objective of the ABESAP is "to ensure that residents of British Columbia who are pursuing developmental education programs for the

purpose of achieving educational goals, skills, and career objectives, are able to do so without facing undue financial barriers."

B.C. residents are eligible for funding assistance under ABESAP if they are Canadian citizens or landed immigrants attending developmental education programs at a post-secondary college or institute, or under the auspices of one of nine designated school districts.

The types of expenses allowed under the ABESAP program include tuition fees, books, supplies and, in some cases, transportation and child care costs.

For further information, contact:

Catherine Davidson
Student Services
Ministry of Advanced
Education, Training and
Technology
1106 Cook Street, Second Floor
Victoria, B.C.
V8V 1X4
Phone: 387-6135
Fax: 356-9455 ☐

Provincial Literacy Coordinator Position Open

The Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology (MAETT) has announced a one-year secondment or contract opportunity for the position of Provincial Literacy Coordinator in Victoria.

The role of the Coordinator is to coordinate the overall direction, development, delivery and evaluation of adult literacy programs and resources in B.C.

The current Provincial Literacy Coordinator, Pat Hodgson, returns to Capilano College as an adult basic education instructor June 30, 1992. The start date for the new Coordinator is open to negotiation.

The responsibilities of the Provincial Literacy Coordinator will be to:

- ❖ review institutional program proposals
- ❖ address curriculum development needs
- ❖ address the development of literacy practitioners
- ❖ liaise with external agencies, the literacy field, and community and

- industry representatives
- ❖ provide provincial leadership in the Decade of Literacy (the 1990's)
- ❖ make recommendations for budget allocations
- ❖ oversee a provincial literacy tuition-free policy
- ❖ provide ongoing needs analysis in literacy programs
- ❖ assist with policy development

Part of the role is to manage the funding of the \$1.3 million 1992/1993 literacy projects cost-shared between the MAETT and the National Literacy Secretariat, Multiculturalism and Citizenship Canada. The incumbent will:

- ❖ solicit [literacy] project proposals
- ❖ manage an internal and external review process
- ❖ negotiate with the National Literacy Secretariat
- ❖ monitor approved projects

The qualifications for the position include: a post-secondary degree in an appropriate discipline with considerable experience in a related field; knowledge of the theory and practice of adult education; knowledge of instructional and curriculum design and development; excellent communication skills; and

analytical and evaluation skills.

Applications and resumes should be submitted by **4:30 p.m. Friday, May 22, 1992** to:

Norma Kidd
Manager, Developmental Programs
Urban Colleges and International Education Branch
Universities, Colleges and Institutes Division
Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology
Second Floor
838 Fort Street
Victoria, B.C.
V8V 1X4
Phone: 387-6182
Fax: 356-8851 ☐

Adult Literacy Contact Centre Newsletter

622 - 510 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1L8
1-800-663-1293 Toll-free in B.C.
684-0624 Lower Mainland
684-8520 Facsimile

The Adult Literacy Contact Centre is a project of the Adult Basic Education Association of B.C. and is jointly funded by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology; and the National Literacy Secretariat.

The Centre welcomes receiving your literacy news by phone, fax or mail. We reserve the right to edit written submissions for the newsletter.

The newsletter is published monthly and mailed during the first week of every month. It is available free of charge to any individual or agency upon request.



Summer Professional Development Courses

Native Literacy Diploma Programs

The Native Adult Education Resource Centre in Salmon Arm, B.C. will offer its Native Adult Instructor Diploma Program this summer at four B.C. locations - Prince George, Kelowna, Vancouver and Kamloops. The program is designed for Native and non-Native people who intend to specialize in the instruction of Native adults in fields such as ABE and literacy, academic studies, and vocational and career training.

For further information, contact:

Native Adult Education
Resource Centre
Box 610
Salmon Arm, B.C.
V1E 4N7
Phone: 1-800-665-9972 (toll-free)
Fax: 832-2771 □

Montreal Hosts Summer Institute

A summer program limited to 15 participants will be held at The Centre for Literacy in Montreal June 29 to July 10, 1992 for "reading, discussing, and exchanging in a learning circle."

Literacy: A Summer Institute (1992) is open to teachers, tutors, trainers and policymakers at any level: elementary through post-secondary; adult education; school or workplace-based. The purpose of the Institute is to bring participants together "in a collaborative workshop setting to study aspects of literacy and develop materials for individual projects."

Reading topics will include: general concepts of literacy; language acquisition; reading as a metaphor for making meaning; connections between critical thinking and literacy; and political and social issues of literacy.

On the first day, participants will choose the topics for extended discussion over the two weeks.

The Centre for Literacy is a resource agency and teacher-training project, established in 1989, "designed to provide linking, training, research and information services that support and promote the advancement of literacy in the schools, the workplace and the community."

For further information, contact:

Catherine Duncan
The Centre for Literacy
3040 Sherbrooke Street West
Room 4B.1
Montreal, Quebec
H3Z 1A4
Phone: (514) 931-8731
Fax: (514) 931-3567 □

Adult Reading Instruction at UBC

Read 477: Teaching Adults to Read - "a course designed for teachers of adult basic literacy and workforce literacy" - will be offered by the Language Education Department at the University of British Columbia this summer.

The objectives of the course (READ 477B/971) are to: "establish a rationale for teaching adult learners basic literacy strategies and to identify effective teaching and assessment strategies."

The course will be held July 27 to August 14, 1992, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. daily.

For further information, contact the instructor:

Florence Pieronek
Associate Professor
Language Education Department
Faculty of Education
2125 Main Mall
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, B.C.
V6T 1Z4
Phone: 822-5338 (UBC) or
732-9745 (home)
Fax: 822-8227 □



Literacy/ESL Text Features Global Stories

A textbook for literacy and English as a second language (ESL) students which explores international current events and social issues is now available in B.C.

Global Stories of People Working for Change is a collection of reading material in intermediate-level English published by CoDevelopment Canada. The agency is a B.C.-based volunteer organization "that brings together partners in Canada, Latin America and the Philippines working for global social and economic justice, and

provides information and education programs for the Canadian public about these issues."

The 64-page textbook, illustrated with black and white photographs, is targeted to both adult and high school learners at the intermediate level. It was written by June Dragman and Michael Szasz. The publication was edited by Joan Acosta, Capilano College ESL instructor and editor of the *Westcoast Reader*, a free literacy and ESL newspaper currently distributed to libraries, multicultural organizations, community programs, and any publicly-funded institution working with adult learners.

The material in *Global Stories* is divided into five major

themes: People and the Land; Rebuilding After War; Ending Family Violence; Literacy for a Better Life; and Workers Making Connections. The text includes personal stories, discussion of social and political issues, and facts about various countries in Central and South America, Africa, Asia and China. A section of "Teacher's Notes," suggests classroom activities and further reading.

For further information, contact:

CoDevelopment Canada
1672 East 10th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.
V5N 1X5
Phone: 873-5011
Fax: 872-0709 ☐

Highlight on B.C. Publishers

Twenty-four titles from B.C. publishers chosen for adult new readers and literacy providers are described in a free brochure now available in public libraries throughout the province.

The titles in **B.C. Books for Literacy** include stories for adults and children, Native issues and legends, poetry and plays, and "how-to" books. The books, which range in reading level between basic (0-3), functional (4-6), independent (7-9), and multi-level (0-9), were chosen by members of the provincial Literacy Materials Committee, the committee responsible for publishing the biannual *Literacy Materials Bulletin*. (See page 5.)

The brochure was funded by the Association of Book Publishers of B.C.; Benwell Atkins Ltd.; the B.C. Library Association Library-Literacy Link Project; Library Services Branch, Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Housing; Literacy B.C.; and the Literacy Materials Committee.

Literacy and Multi-culturalism in Montreal

A national conference on the theme of "Dimensions of Literacy in a Multicultural Society" will be held at Concordia University in Montreal October 2-4, 1992. The conference is sponsored by the University's Adult Education Programme and Lacolle Centre for Educational Innovation.

The conference program will be on the following themes:

- ❖ adult literacy
- ❖ learning disabilities
- ❖ workplace literacy
- ❖ intercultural/Native literacy
- ❖ media literacy
- ❖ scientific and technological literacy
- ❖ health literacy
- ❖ literacy for human rights
- ❖ basic life skills
- ❖ critical literacy

The conference is open to teachers, administrators, social and community workers, learners, volunteers, tutors, researchers and "individuals interested in improving the standard of literacy in our society."

Three keynote speakers will address the following topics:

Literacy for Citizenship:
Speaker - Henry Giroux,
Director, Centre for Education
and Cultural Studies, Oxford,
Ohio, U.S.A.

Multicultural Literacy:
Speaker - Glenda Simms,
President, Canadian Advisory
Council on the Status of
Women, Ottawa

Issues in Basic Literacy:
Speaker - Serge Wagner,
Professor, Universite du
Quebec a Montreal

For further information,
contact:

Dimensions of Literacy 1992
GEMS Conference and Consulting
Services
PO Box 997
Snowdon Station
Montreal, Quebec
H3X 3Y1
Phone: (514) 485-0855
Fax: (514) 487-6725 ☐

OUR OTHER SERVICES

As well as producing this newsletter, the Adult Literacy Contact Centre has services for all B.C.:

we give information and encouragement by phone to adults who want to know about adult basic education opportunities in their own community;

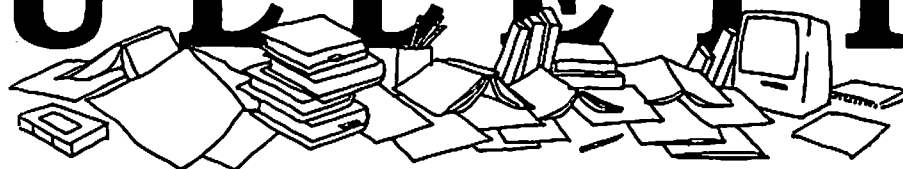
we provide literacy information to the non-profit and community-based sector, business, labour, the media, all levels of government and the public at large; and

we refer volunteer tutors to adult literacy programs.

Phone free from anywhere in B.C.

1-800-663-1293

THE LITERACY MATERIALS BULLETIN



The *Literacy Materials Bulletin* recommends instructional materials for adult basic education that have been reviewed by a 10-member committee of B.C. professional educators. Copies of the current *Bulletin* are available on request from the Contact Centre.

Distinctive Student Design Wins ABEABC Logo Contest

A Kwantlen College graphic arts student has been named the winner of a "redesign the logo" contest held by the Adult Basic Education Association of B.C. (ABEABC).

Stuart Waddell, 23, a fourth semester student in the Graphic and Visual Design program at the college's Newton campus, was selected winner at the annual general meeting of the Association, April 1 to 4 in Harrison Hot Springs, B.C. Waddell receives a \$125.00 prize for his winning design (see illustration).

The ABEABC is "a professional association which fosters and promotes excellence in adult basic education instruction and programming." The Association serves teachers, administrators, and students of basic literacy and adult basic education; Native education; English as a second language; correctional institute, workplace and community-based programs; GED, college prep and other similar programs.

Waddell's entry was one of six received by the ABEABC after it invited students in graphic design programs at B.C. post-secondary institutions to submit designs.



Colleen McGoff Dean, chairperson of the Association's fundraising committee, says her committee felt that "a more distinctive logo was required, since the current logo did not adequately reflect the Association's activities." Since the Association is concerned with serving students, she adds, it was appropriate to invite them to participate in the contest.

The committee narrowed the six entries to three and Waddell's design was "the overwhelming choice of both the selection committee and the ABEABC membership," says McGoff Dean. In a letter of congratulations to the winner, McGoff Dean says the logo was "professionally presented and captured a clear sense of the image the Association aims to put forth."

Other entries were submitted by students at East Kootenay Community College, North Island College, and Kwantlen College. □

"Learning and Work" Task Force Report

A task force appointed by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology in August 1989 to propose long-term strategies for skills development for British Columbians has released its report.

Learning and Work: The Way Ahead for British Columbians sets out 28 recommendations, including a call for the establishment of a British Columbia Council on Training and Employment to coordinate the development and implementation of industry, labour, and government labour market policies.

Copies of the task force report may be obtained from:

Ministry of Advanced
Education, Training and Technology
Skills Development Division
Labour Market Services Branch
First Floor
818 Broughton Street
Victoria, B.C.
V8V 1X4
Phone: 387-3380 □